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hostilities against the government still holding possession of the capital. Should they succeed in subduing the constitutional forces, all reasonable hope will then have expired of a peaceful settlemen' four difficulties.

On the other hand, should the constitutional party prevail, and their authority be established over the repub there is reason to hope that they will be animated by a less unfriendly spirit, and may grant that redress to American citizens which justice requires, so far as they may possess the means. But for this expectation, I should at once have recommended to Congress to grant the necessary power to the President, to take possession of a sufficient portion of the remote and unsettled territory of Mexico, to be held in pledge until our injuries shall be redressed and our just demands be satisfied We have already exhausted every milder means of obtaining justice. In such a case, this remedy of reprisals is recognised by the law of nations, not only as just in itself, but as a means of preventing actual war.

But there is another view of our relations with Mexico. arising from the unhappy condition of affairs along our southwestern frontier, which demands immediate action .-In that remote region, where there are but few white inhabitants, large bands of hostile and predatory Indians roam promiscuously over the Mexican States of Chihuahua and Sonora, and our adjoining Territories. The local governments of these States are perfectly helpless, and are kept in a state of constant alarm by the Indians. They have not the power, if they possessed the will, even to restrain lawless Mexicans from passing the border and committing depredations on our remote settlers. A state of anarchy and violence prevails throughout that distant frontier. The laws are a dead letter, and life and property are wholly insecure. For this reason the settlement of Avizona is arrested, whilst it is of great importance that a chain of inhabifants should extendall along its southern border, sufficient for their own protection and that of the Unuitd States mail passing to and from California. Well-founded apprehensions are now entertained, that the Indians, and wandering Mexicans equally lawless, may break up the important stage and postal communication recently established between our Atlantic and Pacific possessions. This passes very near to the Mexican boundary, throughout the whole length of Ari zona. I can imagine no possible remedy for these evils, and no mode of restoring law and order on that remote and unsettled frontier, but for the government of the United States to assume a temporary protectorate over the northern portions of Chihauhau and Sonora, and to establish military posts within the same-and this I earnestly recommend to Congress. This protection may be withdrawn, as soon as Iccal governments shall be established in these Mexican States, capable of performing their duties to the United States, restraining the lawless, and preserving peace along

I do not doubt that this measure will be viewed in a friendly spirit by the governments and people of Chihuahua and Sonora, as it will prove equally effectual for the protection of their citizens on that remote and lawless frontier, as for citizens of the United States.

TERRITORY OF ARIZONA. And in this connexion, permit me to recall your attention to the condition of Arizona. The population of that Territory, numbering, as is alleged, more than ten thousand souls, are practically without a government, without laws, and without any regular administration of justice. Murder and other crimes are committed with impunity. This state of things calls loudly for redress; and I, therefore, repeat my recommendation for the establishment of a territorial government over Arizona. CENTRAL AMERICA

The political condition of the narrow isthmus of Central America through which transit routes pass, between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, presents a subject of deep interest to all commercial nations. It is over these transits that a large proportion of the trade and travel between the European and Asiatic continents, is destined to pass. To the United States these routes are of incalculable importance, as a means of communication between their Atlantic and Pacific possessions. The latter now extend throughout 17 deg, of latitude on the Pacific coast, embracing the imp rtant State of California and the flourishing Territories of Oregon and Washington. All commercial nations, therefore, have a deep and direct interest, that these communications shall be rendered secure from interruption. If an arm of the sea, connecting the two oceans, penetrated through Nicaragua and Costa Rica, it could no be pretended that these States would have the right to arrest or retard its vigation, to the injury of other nations. The transit land over this narrow isthmus, occup es nearly the same position. It is a highway in which they themselves have little interest, when compared with the vast interests of the rest of the world. Whilst their rights of sovereignty ought to be respected, it is the duty of other nations to require, that this important passage shall not be interrupted by the civil wars and revolutionary outbreaks, which have so frequently occurred in that region. The stake is too important to be left at the mercy of rival companies, claiming to hold conflicting contracts with Nicaragua. The commerce of other nations is not to stand still and await the adjustment of such petty controversies. The government of the United States expect no more than this, and they will not be satisfied with less. They would not, if they could, derive any advantage from the Nicaragua transit, not common to the rest of the world. Its neutrality and protection for the common use of all nations, is their only object. They have no objection that Nicaragua shall demand and receive a fair compensation, from the companies and indiv duals who may traverse the route; but they insist that it shall never hereafter be closed, by an arbitrary decree of that government, If disputes arise between it and those with whom they may have entered into contracts, these must be adjusted by some fair tribunal provided for the purpose, and the route must not be closed pending the con roversy. This is our whole policy, and it cannot fail to be acceptable to other nations. All these difficulties might be avoided, if, consistently with the good faith of Nicaragua, the use of this transit could be thrown open to general competition; providing at the same time for the payment of a reasonable rate to the Nicaraguan government, on passengers and freight.

In August, 1852, the Accessory Transit Company made its first intersceanic trip over the Nicaaaguan route, and continued in successful operation with great advantage to he public, until the 18th February, 1856, when it was closed, and the grant to this company, as well as its charter, were summarily and arbitrarily revoked by the government of President Rivas. Previous to this date, however, in 1854, serious disputes concerning the settlement of their accounts had arise; between the company and the government, threatening the interruption of the toute at any moment. Those the United States in vain endeavored to compose. It would be useless to narrate the various preceedings which took place between the parties, up till the time when the transit was discontinued. Suffice it to say, that, since February, 1856, it has remained closed, greatly to the prejudice of citizens of the United States. Since that time e-empetition has ceased between the rival routes of Panama a..d Nicaragua, and, in consequence thereof, an unjust and unreasonable amount has been exacted from our citizens for their passage to and from California.

A treaty was signed on the 16th day of November, 1877. by the Secretary of State and minister of Nicaragua, under the stipulations of which the use and protection of the transit route would have been secured, not only to the United States, but equally to all other nations. How and on what pretexts this treaty has failed to receive the ratification of the Nicaraguan government, will appear by the papers herewith communicated from the State Department. The principal objection seems to have been, to the provision authorizing the United States to employ force to keep the route open, in case Nicaragua should fait to perform her duty in this respect. From the feebleness of that republic, its frequent changes of government, and its constant inter-nal dissensions, this had become a most important st pulation, and one essentially necessary not only for the security of the route, but for the safety of American cit zens passing and repassing to and from our Pacific possessions. Were such a stipulation embraced in a treaty between the United States and Nicaragua, the knowledge of this tac: would of itself most probably prevent hostile parties from committing aggressions on the route, and render our actual interference for its protection unnecessary.

The executive government of this country, in its intercourse with foreign nations, is limited to the employment of diplomacy alone. When this fails, it can proceed no further. It cannot legitimately resort to force, without the direct authority of Congress, except in resisting and repelling hostile attacks. It would have no authority to enter the territories of Nicaragua, even to prevent the descruction of the transit, and protect the lives and property of our own citizens on their passage. It is true, that on a sudden emergency of this character, the President would direct any armed force in the vicinity to march to their relief, but in doing this he would act upon his own responsibility.

Under these circumstances, I earnestly recommend to Congress, the passage of an act authorising the President, under such restrictions as they may deem proper, to employ the land and naval forces of the United States in preventing the transit from being obstructed or closed by lawless violence, and in protecting the lives and property of American citizens travelling thereupon, requiring at the same time that these forces shall be withdrawn the moment the danger shall have passed away. Without such a provision, our citizens will be constantly exposed to interrup-tion in their progress, and to lawless violence.

A similar necessity exists for the passage of such an act, for the protection of the Panama and Tehuantepec routes. In reference to the Panama route, the United States, by their existing treaty with New Granada, expressly guarantee the neutrality of the Isthmus, "with the view that the free transit from the one to other sea may not be interrupted or embarrassed in any future time while this treaty

In regard to the Tehuantepec route, which has been recently opened under the most tavorable auspices, our treaty with Mexico of the 30th December, 1853, secures to the citizens of the United States a right of transit over it for their persons and merchandise, and stipulates that neither government shall "interpose any obstacle" thereto. It also concedes to the United States the "right to transport across the isthmus in closed bags, the mails of the United States not intended for distribution along the line of the commu-nication; also, the effects of the United States government and its citizens which may be intended for transit, and not for distribution on the isthmus, free of custom-house or

other charges by the Mexican government."

These treaty stipulations with New Granada and Mexico, in addition to the considerations applicable to the Nicara-gua route, seem to require legislation for the purpose of

carrying them into effect. The injuries which have been inflicted upon our citizens in Costa Rica and Nicaragua, during the last two or three years, have received the prompt attention of this government. Some of these injuries were of the most aggravated character. The transaction at Virgin Bay in April, 1856, when a company of unarmed Americans, who were in no way connected with any beligerent conduct or party, were fired upon by the troops of Costa Rica, and numbers of them killed and wounded, was brought to the knowledge of Congress by my predecessor soon after its occurrence, and was also presented to the government of Costa Rica, for that immediate investigation and redress which the na-ture of the case demanded A similar course was pursued with reference to other outrages in these countries, some of which were hardly less aggravated in their character than the transaction at Virgin Bay. At the time, however, when our present minister to Nicaragua was appointed, in De-cember, 1857, no redress had been obtained for any of these wrongs, and no reply even had been received to the de-mands which had been made by this government up n that

instructed, therefore, to lose no time in expressing to those governments the deep regret with which the President had ritnessed this inattention to the just claims of the United States, and in demanding their prompt and satisfactory adjustment. Unless this demand shall be complied with at an early day, it will only remain for this government to adopt such other measures as may be necessary, in order to obtain for itself that justice which it has in vain attempted to secure by peaceful means, from the governments of Ni caragua and Costa Rica. While it has shown, and will continue to show, the most sincere regard for the rights and honor of these republics, it cannot permit this regard to be met by an utter neglect, on their part, of what is due to

Against New Granad: we have long-standing causes of complaint, arising out of the unsatisfied claims of our citzens upon that republic; and to these have been more recently added the outrages committed upon our citizens at Panama in April, 1856. A treaty for the adjustment of these difficulties, was concluded by the Secretary of State and the minister of New Granada, in September, 1857, which contained just and acceptable provisions for that pur-pose. This treaty was transmitted to Bogota, and was ratpose. This treaty was transmitted to be the first field by the government of New Granada, but with certain amendments. It was not, however, returned to this city until after the close of the last session of the Senate. It will be immediately transmitted to that body for their advice and consent; and should this be obtained, it will remove all our existing causes of complaint against New

Granada on the subject of claims. Questions have arisen between the two governments, as to the right of New Gramda to levy a tonnage duty upon the vessels of the United States in its ports of the Isthmus, and to levy a passenger tax upon our citizens arriving in that country, whether with a design to remain there or to pass from ocean to ocean by the transit route; and also a tax upon the mail of the United States transported over the Panama railroad. The government of New Granada has been informed, that the United States would consider the collection of either of these taxes, as an act in violation of the treaty between the two countries, and as such would be resisted by the United States. At the same time, we are prepared to discuss these questions in a spirit of amity and ustice, and with a sincere desire to adjust them in a satisfactory manner. A negotiation for that purpose has alrea dy been commenced. No effort has recently been made to collect these taxes, nor is any anticipated under present cir-

With the empire of Brazil our relations are of the most friendly character. The productions of the two countries, and especially those of an agricultural nature, are such as to invite extensive mutual exchanges. A large quantity of American flour is consumed in Brazil; whilst more than reble the amount in value of Brazilian coffee is consumed in the United States. Whilst this is the case a heavy duty has been levied, until very rec. ntly, upon the importation of American flour into Brazil. I am gratified, however, to be able to inform you that in September last this has been reduced from \$1 32 to about forty-nine cents per barrel, and the duties on other articles of our production have been diminished in nearly the same proportion.

I regret to state that the government of Brazil continues to levy an export duty of about 11 per cent. on coffee, not-withstanding this article is admitted free from duty in the United States. This is a heavy charge upon the consumers of coffee in our country, as we purchase half of the entire surplus crop of that article raised in Brazil. Our minister, under instructions, will reiterate his efforts to have this export duty removed; and it is hoped that the enlightened government of the Emperor will adopt this wise, just, and equa, policy. In that event, there is good reason to believe that the commerce between the two countries will greatly increase, much to the advantage of both.

The claims of our citizens against the government of Brazil are not, in the aggregate, of very large amount ; but some of these rest upon plain principles of justice, and their settlement ought not to be longer delayed. A renewed and earnest, and I trust a successful effort, will be made by our minister to procure their final adjustment. On the 2d of June last, Congress passed a joint resolution

authorizing the President " to adopt such measures and use such force as, in his judgment, may be necessary and advisable" " for the purpose of adjusting the difference between the United States and the republic of Paraguay, in connection with the attack on the United States steamer Water W tch, and with other measures ref rred to" in his annual message. And on the 12th July following, they made an riation to defray the expenses and compensation of a commissioner to that republic, should the President deem it proper to make such an appointment.

In compliance with these enactments, I have appointed a commissioner, who has proceeded to Paraguay, with full p wers and instructions to settle these differences in an amicable and peaceful manner, if practicable. His experience and discretion justify the hope, that he may prove successful in convincing the Paragnayan government, that it is due both to honor and justice, that they should voluntarily and promptly make aton-ment for the wrongs which they have committed against the United States and indemnify our injured citizens whom they have forcibly despoiled

· Should our commissioner prove unsuccessful, after a sincere and earnest effort, to accomplish the object of his mission, then no alternative will remain, but the employment of force to obtain "just satisfaction" from Paraguay. In view of this contingency, the Secretary of the Navy, under my direction, has fitted out and despatched a naval force. to rendezvous near Buenos Ayres, which, it is believed, will prove sufficient for the occasion. It is my earnest desire, lowever, that it may not be found necessary to resort to

THE LATE COMMERCIAL REVULSION When Congress met in December last, the business of the country had just been crushed, by one of those periodical revulsions, which are the inevitable corsique ce of our unsound and extravagant system of bank credit and inflated currency. With all the elements of national wealth in abundance, our manufactures were suspended, our useful public and private enterprises were arrested, and thousands of laborers were deprived of employment and reduced to want. Universal distress prevailed among the commercial, manufacturing, and mechanical classes. This revulsion was felt the more severely in the United States, because similar causes had produced the like deplorable effects throughout the commercial nations of Europe. All were experiencing sid reverses at the same moment. Our manufacturers everywhere suffered severely, not because of the recent reduction in the tar if of duties on imports, but because there was no demand at any price for their productions. The p sple were obliged to restrict themselves, in their purchaches, to articles of prime necessity. In the general prostration of business, the iron manufacturers in different States probably suffered more than any other class, and much destitution was the inevitable consequence, among the great number of workmen who had been employed in this useful branch of our industry. There could be no sup-ply where there was no demand. To present an example, there could be no demand for railroad iron, after our magdifferent system of railroads, extending its benefits to every portion of the Union, had been brought to a dead pause,-The same consequences have resulted from similar causes to many other branches of useful manufactures. It is self evident that where there is no ability to purchase manufactured articles, these cannot be sold, and consequently must

No government, and especially a government of su h limited powers as that of the United States, could have prevented the late revu son. The whole commercial world seem ed for years to have been rushing to this catastrophe. The same ruinous consequences would have followed in the United States, whether the duties upon foreign imports had remained as they were under the tariff of 184;, or had been raised to a much higher standard. The tariff of 1857 had n agency in the result. The general causes existing throughout the world, could not have been controlled by

the legislation of any particular country.

The periodical revulsions which have existed in our past history, must continue to return at intervals, so long as our present unbounded system of bank credits shall prevail. They will, probably, be the less severe in future; because it is not to be expected, at least for many years to come, that the commercial nations of Europe, with whose interests our own are so materially involved, will expose themselves to similar calamities. But this subject was treated so much at large in my last annual message that I shall not now pursue it further. Still, I respectfully renew the recommendation, in favor of the passage of a uniform bankrupt law, applicable to banking institutions. This is all the direct power over the subject which, I believe, the federal government possesses. Such a law would mitigate, though it might not prevent the evil. The instinct of self-preservation might produce a wholesome restraint upon their banking business, if they knew in advance, that a suspension of specie payments

would inevitably produce their civil death But the effects of the revulsion are now slowly but snrely passing away. The energy and enterprise of our citizens, with our unbounded resources, will, within the period of another year, restore a state of wholesome industry and trade. Capital has again accumulated in our large cities .--The rate of interest is there very low. Confidence is gradually reviving, and so soon as it is discovered that this capital can be profitably employed in commercial and manufacturing enterprises, and in the construction of railroads and other works of public and private improvement, prosperity will again smite throughout the L. . It is vain, however, to d squise the fact from ourselves, that a speculative inflation of our currency, without a corresponding inflation in other countries whose manufactures come into competition with our own, must ever produce disastrous results to our domestic manufactures. No tariff, short of absolute prohibition, can prevent these evil consequ

OUR FINANCIA. CONDITION. In connexion with this subject, it is proper to refer to our financial codition The same causes which have produced pecuniary distress throughout the coun ry, have so reduced the amount of imports from foreign countries, that the revenue has proved inadequate to meet the necessary expenses of the government. To supply the deficiency, Congress, by the act of the 23d of December, 1877, authorized the issue of \$20,000,000 of treasury notes; and, this proving inadequate, they authorized, by the act of June 14th, 1853, a loan of \$20,000,000, "to be applied to the payment of appropriations

INCREASE OF REVENUE-SPECIFIC DUTIES. No statesman would advise, that we should go on increas ing the national debt to meet the ordinary expenses of the government. This would be a most rumous policy. In cases of war, our credit mustbe our chie' resource, at least for the first year, and this would be greatly impaired by having con racted a large debt in time of peace. It is our true policy, to increase our revenue so as to equal our expenditures. It would be ruinous to continue to borrow.—
Besides, it may be proper to observe, that the incidental protection, thus afforded by a revenue tariff, would at the present moment, to some extent, increase the confidence of the manufaccuring interests, and give a fresh impulse to our reviving business. To this, surely, no person will ob-

In regard to the mode of assessing and collecting duties under a strictly revenue tariff, I have long entertained and often expressed the opinion, that sound policy requires this should be done by specific duties, in cases to which these can be properly applied. They are well adapted to comodities which are usually sold by weight or by measure, and which, from their nature, are of equal or of nearly equal value. Such, for example, are the articles of iron of different terms and specific property and foreign wines and applied. ent classes, raw sugar, and foreign wines and spirits. In my deliberate judgment, specific duties are the best. if not the only means of securing the revenue against talse of Costs Rica, more than a year before. Our minister was and fraudulent invoices, and such has been the practice

adopted for this purpose by other commercial nations.—
Besides, specific duties would afford to the American manufacturer the incidental advantages to which he is fairly entitled under a revenue tariff The present system is a slid-ing scale to his disadvantage. Under it, when prices are high and business prosperous, the duties rise in amount when he least requires their aid. On the contrary, when prices fall, and he is struggling against adversity, the duties are diminished in the same proportion, greatly to his injury. Neither would there be danger that a higher rate of duty than that intended by Congress, could be levied in the form

of specific duties. It would be easy to ascertain the average value of any imported article for a series of years; and instead of subjecting it to an ad valorem duty at a certain rate per ceutum, to substitute in its place an equivalent By such an arrangement the consumer would not be in jured. It is true, he might have to pay a little more duty or a given article in one year; but if so, he would pay a little less in another, and in a series of years these would

counterbalance each other, and amount to the same thing, so far as his interest is concerped. This inconvenience would be triffing, when contrasted with the additional security thus afforded against frauds upon the revenue, in which every consumer is directly interested I have thrown out these suggestions as the fruit of my wn observation, to which Congress, in their better judg-

ment, will give such weight as they may justly deserve.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT. The report of the Secretary of the Treasury will explain in detail the operations of that department of the government. The receipts into the treasury from all sources de ring the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1858, including the tr asury notes authorized by the act of December 23, 1857 were seventy million two hundred and seventy-three thousand eight hundred and sixty nine dollars and fifty-nine cents, (\$70,273,863 59.) which amount, with the balance of seventeen million seven hundred and ten thousand one hundred and fourteen dollars and twenty seven cents (\$17,-710,114 27) remaining in the treasury at the commenc ment of the year, made an aggregate for the service of the

six cents, (87,983,983 86.) The public expenditures during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1858, amounted to eighty-one million five hundred and eighty-five thousand six hundred and sixty-seven dollars and seventy-six cents, (\$81,585,667 76,) of which nine million six hundred and eighty-four thousand five hundred and thirty-seven dollars and ninety-nine cents (\$9,684. 537 9a) were applied to the payment of the public debt, and the redemption of treasury notes with the interest there on, leaving in the treasury on July 1, 185*, being the com mencement of the present fiscal year, six million three hundred and ninety-eight thousand three hundred and sixteen

year of eighty-seven million nine hundred and eighty-three

thousand nine hundred and eighty-three dollars and eighty-

dollars and ten cents, (\$6,398,316 10.) The receipts into the treasury, during the first quarter of the present fiscal year, commencing the 1st July, 1868, in cluding one-half of the loan of twenty millions of dollars. with the premium upon it, authorized by the act of 14th June, 1858, were twenty-five million two hundred and thirty thousand eight hundred and seventy-nine dollars and forty-six cents, (\$25,23,879 46,) and the estimated receipts for the remaining three quarters to the Soth June, 1859, from ordinary sources, are thirty-eight million five hundred thousand dollars, (\$38,500,000,) making, with the balance before stated, an aggregate of seventy million one hundred and twenty-nine thousand one hundred and ninety-five doll rs and fifty-six cents, (\$70,129,195-56.)

The expenditures, during the first quarter of the presen fiscal year, were twenty-one million seven hundred and eight thousand one hundred and ninety-eight dollars and fifty-one cents, (\$21,708,188 51,) of which one million and ten thousand one hundred and forty-two dollars and thirty-seven cents (\$1,010,142 37) were applied to the payment of the public debt and the redemption of treasury notes and the interest thereon. The estimated expenditures, during the remaining three quarters to Soth June, 1859, are fifty two million three hundred and fifty-seven thousand six hundred and ninety-eight dollars and forty-eight cents, \$52,357,698 48,) making an aggregate of seventy-four millon sixty-five thousand eight hundred and ninety-six dollars and ninety-nine cents, (\$74,06), 596-59,) being an excess of expenditure, beyond the estimated receipts into the treasury from ordinary sources, during the fiscal year to the 30th June, 1859, of three midion nine hundred and thirtysix thousand seven hundred and one dollars and forty-three law within the command of the Secretary of the Treasury by the reissue of treasury notes redeemed, and by negotia ting the balance of the loan authorized by the act of 14th June, 1555, to the extent of eleven millions of dollars, which, it realized during the present fiscal year, will leave a balance in the treasury on the first day of July, 1859, of seven million sixty-three thousand two hundred and ninety-eight dollars and fifty-seven cents, (\$7,063,298-57-)

The estimated receipts during the next fiscal year ending 3oth June, 1860, are sixty-two millions of dollars, (\$62, 000,000,) which, with the above estimated balance of seven million sixty-three thousand two hundred and ninety-eight dollars and fifty-seven cents, (\$7 063,298 56,) make an aggregate for the service of the next fiscal year, of sixty-nine million sixty-three thousand two hundred and ninety-eigh dollars and fifty-seven cents, (\$69,063,298 57.) The esti nate I expenditures during the next fiscal year ending 30th June, 1860, are seventy-three million one handred and thitty-nine thousand one hundred and forty-seven dollars and forty-six cent-, (\$73,189,147 46,) which leave a deficit of estimated means, compared with the estimated expenditures for that year, commencing on the 1st of July, 1859, of four million and seventy-five thousand eight hundred and forty-eight dollars and eighty-nine cents, (\$4,075,848 79.) In addition to this sum, the Postmaster General will require from the treasury, for the service of the Post Office

Department, three million eight hundred thirty-eight thousand seven hundred and twenty-eight dollars, (\$3,838,728, as explained in the report of the Secretary of the Treasury which will increase the estimated deficit on the 30th June, so), to seven million nine hundred and fourteen thousand five hundred and seventy-six dollars and eighty-nine cents, (\$7,914,576,89.) To provide for the payment of this estimated deficiency, which will be increased by such apprepria tions as may be made by Congress, not estimated for in the report of the Treasury Department, as well as to provide for the gradual redemption, from year to year, of the outstanding treasury notes, the Secretary of the Treasury recommends such a revision of the present tariff as will raise the required amount. After what I have already said, I need scarcely add that I concur in the opinion expressed in his report, that the public debt should not be increased by an additional loan, and would therefore strongly u ge up in Congress the duty of making, at their present session, the necessary provision for meeting these liabilities. The public debt on the 1st July, 1-5-, the comm

nent of the present fiscal year, was \$25,155,977.66, During the first quarter of the present year, the sum of \$10,000,000 has been negotiated of the loan authorized by the act of 14th June, 1858-making the present outstanding public debt, exclusive of treasury notes, \$35,155,977.66. There was on the 1st of July, 1858, of the treasury notes issued by authority of the act of December 23, 1857, unredeemed, the sum of \$19,754,800 - making the amount of actual indebtedness, at that date, \$54,910,777.66. To this will be added \$10,000,000 during the present fiscal year- this being the remaining half of the loan of \$20,000,000 not yet

The rapid increase of the public debt, and the necessity which exists for a modification of the tariff, to meet even the ord nary expenses of the government, ought to acmonish us all, in our respective spheres of duty, to the practice of rigid economy. The objects of expenditure should be limited in number, as far as this may be practicable, and the appropriations necessary to carry them into effect, ought to be d sbursed under the strictest accountability. Enlightened economy does not consist in the refusal to appropriate money for constitutional purposes, essential to the defence, progress, and prosperity of the republic, but in taking care at none of this money shall be wasted by mismanagement,

n its application to the objects designated by law. Comparisons between the annual expenditure at the present time, and what it was ten or twenty years ago, are altogether fallacious. The rapid increase of our country in extent and p-pulation, renders a corresponding increase of expenditure, to some extent, unavoidable. This is constantly creating rew objects of expenditure, and augmenting the amount required for the old. The true questions then, are, have these objects been unnecessarily multiplied? or, has the amount expended upon any or all of them, been larger than comports with due economy? In accordance with these principles, the heads of the different executive departments of the government, have been instructed to reduce their estimates for the next fiscal year, to the lowest standard consistent with the efficiency of the service, and this duty they have performed in a spirit of just economy. The estimates of the Treasury, War, Navy, and Interior De partments, have each been in some degree reduced; and inless a sudden and unforeseen emergency should arise, it s not anticipated that a deficiency will exist in either with in the present or the next fiscal year. The Post Office Department is placed in a peculiar position, different from the other departments, and to this I shall hereafter refer.

I invite Congress to institute a rigid scrutiny to ascertain whether the expenses in all the departments cannot be still further reduced; and I promise them all the aid in my power in pursuing the investigation.

WAR, NAVY AND INTERIOR DEPARTMENTS. I transmit herewith the reports made to me by the Sec retaries of War, of the Navy, of the Interior, and of the Postmaster General. They each contain valuable informaations to which I invite

attention of Congress. In my last annual message, I took occasion to recommen the immediate construction of ten small steamers, of light draught, for the purpose of increasing the efficiency of the navy. Congress responded to the recommendation, by authorizing the construction of eight of them. The progress which has been made in executing this authority, is stated in the report of the Secretary of the Navy. I concur with him in the opinion, that a greater number of this class of vessels is neces ary, for the purpose of protecting in a more efficient manner the persons and property of American citizens on the high seas, and in foreign countries, as well as in guarding more effectually our own coasts. I accordingrecommend the passage of an act for this purpose.

The suggestions contained in the report of the Secretary of the Interior, especially those in regard to the disposition of the public domain, the pension and bounty-land system, the policy towards the Indians, and the amendment of our patent law, are worthy of the serious consideration of

Congress. POSTOFFICE DEPARTMENT. The Post Office Department occupies a position very dif-ferent from that of the other departments. For many years t was the policy of the government to render this a selfsustaining department; and if this cannot now be accom-

plished, in the present condition of the country, we ought o make as near an approach to it as may be practicable. The Postmaster General is placed in a most embarrassing position by the existing laws. He is obliged to carry these into effect. He has no other alternative. He finds, however, that this cannot be done without heavy demands upon the treasury over and above what is received for postage; and these have been progressively increasing from year to year until they amounted for the last fiscal year ending on the 30th June, 1858, to more than four millions and a half of dollars; whilst it is estimated that for the present fiscal year they will amount to \$6,290,000. These sums are exclusive of the annual appropriation of \$700,000 for compensation for the mail service performed for the two houses of

Congress and the other departments and officers of 'he government in the transportation of free matter.

The cause of these large deficits is mainly attributable to the increased expense of transporting the mails. In 1852 the sum paid for this service was but a fraction above four millions and a quarter. Since that year it has annually increased until in 1858 it has reached more than eight millions and a quarter; and for the service of 1859, it is estimated that it will amount to more than ten millions of dol-

The receipts of the Post Office Department can be made o approach or to equal its expenditure only by means o the legislation of Congress. In applying any remedy, care should be taken that the people shall not be deprived of the advantages, which they are fairly entitled to enjoy from the Post Office Department. The principal remedies recommended to the consideration of Congress by the Postmaster General, are to restore the former ra'e of postage upon single letters to five cents; to substitute for the franking privlege the delivery to those now entitled to enjoy it, of post office stamps for their correspondence, and to direct the de-partment, in making contracts for the transportation of the mail, to confine itself to the payment of the sum necessary for this single purpose, without requiring it to be transpor-ted in post coaches or carriages of any particular description. Under the present system, the expense to the government is greatly increased, by requiring that the mail shall be carried in such vehicles as will accommodate passengers. This will be done without pay from the department, over all roads where the travel will remunerate the contractors.

These recommendations deserve the grave consideration of Congress. THE PACIFIC RAILROAD

I would again call your attention to the construction of Pacific Railroad. Time and reflection have but served to confirm me in the truth and justice of the observations which I made, on this subject, in my last annual message to which I beg leave respectfully to refer.

It is freely admitted, that it would be inexpedient for this overnment to exercise the power of constructing the Pacific railroad by its own immediate agents. Such a policy would increase the patronage of the executive to a dangerous extent, and introduce a system of jobbing and corrup tion, which no vigilance on the part of federal officials could either prevent or detect. This can only be done by the keen eye, and active and careful supervision, of individual and private interest. The construction of this road ought, therefore, to be committed to companies incorporated by the States, or other agencies whose pecuniary interests would be directly involved. Congress might then assist their in the work by grants of land or of money, or both, under such conditions and restrictions as would secure the transportation of troops and munitions of war free from any charge, and that of the United States mail at a fair and reasonable price.

The progress of events since the commencement of your last session, has shown how soon difficulties disappear before a firm and determined resolution. At that time, such a road was deemed by wise and patriotic men, to be a visionary project. The great distance to be overcome and the in tervening mountains and deserts in the way, were obstacles which, in the opinion of many, could not be surmounted Now, after the lapse of but a single year, these obstacles, it has been discovered, are far less formidable than they were supposed to b; and mail stages, with passengers, now pass and repass regularly, twice in each week, by a common wagon-road between San Francisco and St. Louis and Memphis, in less than twenty-five days. The service has been as regularly performed, as it was, in former years, between New York and this city.

Whilst dischaning all authority to appropriate money for the construction of this road, except that derived from the war-making power of the constitution, there are important collateral considerations urging us to undertake the work as speedily as possible.

The first and most momentous of these is, that such a road would be a powerful bond of union between the States east and west of the Rocky mountains. This is so self evident as to require no illustration.

But again, in a commercial point of view, I consider this the great question of the day. With the eastern front of our republic stretching along the Atlantic, and its western front along the Pacific, if all the parts should be united by a safe, easy, and rapid intercomunication, we must necessa rily command a very large proportion of the trade both of Europe and Asia. Our recent treaties with China and Jaopen these rich and populous empires to our com merce; and the history of the world proves, that the nation which has gained possession of the trade with Eastern Asia, has always become wealthy and powerful. The peculiar geographical position of California and our Pacific possessions, invites American capital and enterprise into this fruitful field To reap the rich harvest, however, it is an indispensable prerequisite, that we shall first have a railroad, to convey and e reulate its product s throughout every portion of the Union. Besides, such a railroad through our temperate latitude, which would not be impeded by the frosts and snows of winter, nor by the tropical heats of summer, would attract to itself much of the travel and the trade of all nations pas ing between Europe and Asia.

CAPTURE OF THE SLAVER " ECHO On the 21st of August last, Lieut. J. N. Maflit, of the United States brig Doiphin, captured the slaver ' Echo,' (formerly the Putnam of New Orleans,) near Kay Verde on the coast of Cuba, with more than three hundred African negroes on board. The prize, under the command or Lieut. Bradford of the United States navy, arrived at Charleston on the 27th August; when the negroes, three hundred and six in number, were delivered into the custody of the United States marshal for the district of South Carolina. They were first placed in Castle Pinckney, and afterwards in Fort Sumpter, for safe-keeping, and were detained there until the 15th September, when the survivors, two hundred and seventy-one in number, were delivered or b and the United States steamer Niagara, to be transported to the coast of Africa, under the charge of the agent of the United States, pursuant to the provisions of the act of the 3d March, 1819, "in addition to the acts prohibiting the slave trade." Under the 2d section of this act, the President is "authorized to make such regul i as and arrangements as he may deem expedient, for the safe-keeping, suport, and removal beyond the limits of the United States. f all such negroes, mulattoes, or persons of color" captured by vessels of the United States, as may be delivered to the marshal of the district into which they are brought; "and to appoint a proper person or persons residing upon the coast of Africa, as agent or agents for receiving the negroes mulattoes, or persons of color, delivered from on board vessels seized in the prosecution of the slave trade by commanders of the United States armed vessels."

A doubt immediately arose as to the true construction of this act. It is quite clear from its terms that the President was authorized to provide "for the safe-keeping, support, and removat" of these negroes up tall the time of their delivery to the agent on the coast of Africa; but no express provision was made for their protection and support after they had reached the place of their destination. Still, an agent was to be appointed to receive them in Africa; and could not have been supposed that Congress intended he should desert them at the moment they were received, and turn them loose on that inhospitable coast to perish for want of food, or to become again the victims of the slave trade. Had this been the intention of Congress, the employment of an agent to receive them, who is required to reside on the coast, was unnecessary, and they might have been landed by our vessels anywhere in Africa, and left exposed to the sufferings and the fate which would certain-

await them. Mr Monroe, in his special message of :7th December, 1817, at the first session after the act was passed, announced to Congress what, in his opinion, was its true construction.— He believed it to be his duty under it, to follow these unfortunates into Africa, and make provision for them there, until they should be able to provide for themselves. In communicating this interpretation of the act to Congress, he stated that some doubt had been entertained as to 18 true intent and meaning, and he submitted the question to them, so that they might, "should it be deemed advisable, amend the same before further proceed ags are had under " Nothing was done by Congress to explain the act, and Mr. Monroe proceeded to carry it into execution according to his own interpretation. This, then, became the practical construction. When the Africans from on board the Echo were delivered to the marshal at Charleston, it became my duty to consider what disposition ought to be mide of them nader the law. For many reasons it was expedient to remove them from that locality as speedily as po s ble. Although the conduct of the authorities and extizens of Charleston, in giving countenance to the execution of the law, was just what might have been expeced from their high character, yet a prolonged continuance of three hundred Africans in the immediate vicinity of that city, could not have failed to become a source of inconvenience and anxiety to its inhabitants. Where to send them was he question. There was no portion of the coast of Africa, to which they could be removed with any regard to humanity. except to Liberia. Under these circumstances, an agrement was entered into with the Colonization Society or the 7th of September last, a copy of which is herewith transmitted, under which the Society engaged, for the consideration of forty-five thousand collars, to receive these Africans in Liberia from the agent of the United States, and furnish them during the period of one year thereaft r. with comfortable sheiter, clothing, provisions, and medical at-tendance, causing the children to receive schooling; and ail, whether children or adults, to be instructed in the arts in civilized life, suitable to their condition. This aggregate of forty-five thousand dollars was based upon an atlowance of one hundred and fifty dollars for each individual, and as there has been considerable mortality amongst them, and may be more before they reach Africa, the society have agreed, in an equitable spirit, to make such a deduction from the amount, as under the circumstances may appear just and reasonable. This cannot be fixed until we shall ascertain the actual number which may become a charge to

It was also distinctly agreed, that under no circumstances shall this government be called upon for any additional ex-

The agents of the society manifested a laudable desire to conform to the wishes of the government, throughout the transaction. They assured me that, after a careful calculation, they would be required to expend the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars on each individual in complying with the agreement, and they would have nothing left to remunerate them for their care, trouble, and responsibility. At all events, I could make no better arrangement, and there was no other alternative. During the period when the government itself, through its own agents, undertook the task of providing for captured negroes in Africa, the cost per head was very much greater.

There having been no outstanding appropriation applica-

ble to this purpose, I could not advance any money on the agreement. I therefore recommend that an appropriation may be made, of the amount necessary to carry it into effect. Other captures of a similar character may, and probably will, be made by our naval forces; and I carnestly recommend that Congress may amend the second section of the act of March 8, 1819, so as to free its construction from the ambiguity which has so long existed, and render the duty of the President plain in executing its provisions.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA. I recommend to your favorable regard the local interests of the District of Columbia. As the residence of Congress and the executive departments of the government, we can-nat fail to feel a deep concern in its welfare. This is height-ened by the high character and the peaceful and orderly conduct of its resident inhabitants.

I cannot conclude without performing the agreeable duty of expressing my gratification, that Congress so kindly re-sponded to the recommendation of my last annual message, by affording me sufficient time before the close of their late by affording me sufficient time before the close of their late session, for the examination of all the bills presented to me for approval. This change in the practice of Congress, has proved to be a wholesome reform. It exerted a beneficial influence on the transaction of legislative business, and elicited the general approbation of the country. It enabled Congress to adjourn with that dignity and deliberation so becoming to the representatives of this great republic, with out having crowded into general appropriation bills provisions foreign to their nature, and of doubtful canstitutionality and expediency. Let me warmly and strongly com-mend this precedent, established by themselves, as a guide

to their proceedings during the present session.

JAMES BUCHANAN. WASHINGTON CITY, December 6, 1858.

The Standard.

RALEIGH: THURSDAY, DEC. 9, 1858.

HOLDEN & WILSON, STATE PRINTERS, -AND
AUTHORIZED PUBLISHERS OF THE LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES.

The Legislature.

On Tuesday the bill to aid the Fayetteville Coalfields Road was defeated in the Senate, by a vote of 15 to 30. The friends of the measure hope to obtain a reconsideration of the vote to-day.

The House of Commons was occupied for the preater part of its sessions on Tuesday and Wednesday, in hearing and considering the arguments for and against the right to a seat as a member of E. G. Haywood, Esq., of Wake county, who was when elected, and is now Clerk and Master in Equity for Wake county. Mr. Haywood addressed the House at length on Tuesday and Wednesday in support of his right to a seat, and was replied to on Wednesday by Mr. Benbury. The House will probably come to a vote on the question to-day.

On Wednesday the death of Chief Justice Nash was announced in both houses, and appropriate reso lutions touching that sad event were unanimously adopted. Able and eloquent tributes were paid by several members to his public and private virtues.

President's Message.

We devote much of our space to-day to this important document. It is one of the ablest State papers which has ever emanated from the pen of its great author, and will be perused with deep interest by millions on this continent and in Europe.

We concur with the President in every word he has said on the slavery question and Kansas.

His views in relation to Spain and Cuba, Mexico, the Nicaragua transit route, and in relation to our foreign policy generally, will meet the approval of a

large majority of the American people.

THE HORSE TAMER. -- Prof. Lanier yesterday tamed a wild horse belonging to Sheriff High of this City. The horse could be neither ridden nor driven with an open umbrella, and was particularly afraid of the sound of a drum. Prof. L. soon made the horse follow him through our streets to the rattling of a drum carried by the Professor. He was then harnessed to a sulky and driven round, the Professor sitting in the sulky and holding an open umbrella in one hand and tapping the drum with the other. The success of Prof. L. was complete.

Congress assembled on Monday last. Both our Senators, Messrs. Reid and Clingman, were in attendance the first day and five of our members of the House, to wit: Messrs. Ruffln, Winslow, Branch, Scales, and Craige. We publish in another column a brief synopsis of the two first days.

DEATH OF JOHN D. HAWKINS,-John D. Hawkins, Esq., expired at his residence in Franklin County, on the 5th instant, at an advanced age. An obituary notice, prepared by a friend, is unavoidably crowded out, but will appear in our next.

The Hon. John W. Ellis, the Governor elect, has been in the City for several days past. Gov. Eliis is in excellent health.

We have also had the pleasure of meeting the Hon. William H. Polk, of Tennessee, who is on a visit to the City.

APPOINTMENT.-Henry R. Bryan, Esq., of this City, has been appointed by the Circuit Court of the United States Clerk of the same, vice Edward Cantwell, Esq., resigned the 30th September last.

Subscription to the Western Extension.—We learn that the people of McDowell have voted at the polls, by a majority of 211, to subscribe \$50,000 to the Western Extension.

A number of articles intended for this day's paper have been crowded out by the President's

USURY LAWS AND BANKS .- The following from the New York Journal of Commerce, may not be inopportune at the present time, and not unworthy the attention of the members of the Legislature, as this question will in all probability be brought before them during the present session :-

"To remove the more common temptations to reckless banking, and to provide a more substantial basis for the credit superstructure we cannot yet afford to demolish, why not take a step in the direction of freedom, and abolish the odious Usury Laws? It is the operation of these tyrannical regulations, left us as a legacy from the barbarous ages, which render so many other legislative restrictions neces-

We forbid the legitimate loaning of money at over seven per cent., and then create, by law, a class of institutions which are enabled to declare eight and ten per cent. dividends by the very practices we are now exhausting our wisdom to prevent. We increase the competition in banking, without increasing capital, by refusing the same profit to money employed in more natural channels; and after stimulating this strife by every conceivable legislative artifice, until the fever thus created leads to all sorts of wild excesses, we set to work, on the homoeopathic principle to cool off the excitement and restrain the madness by a farther exhibition of the same pro-

Governor R. F. Allston, of South-Carolina, in his message to the Legislature, thus briefly alludes to the same subject:

"As to the banks, trusting to the experience and superior wisdom of members. I will not occupy you with any suggestions of my own, further than for the repeal of the usury laws, and to recommend stability and as little legislation as possible. I would willingly diminish the number of banks, when existing charters expire. But, having once chartered a bank upon a basis insuring due responsibility, would trust its board of directors to manage the monopoly upon the recognized principle of banking, and the governing course of business, interfering not by temporary laws, harsh restrictions and pen alties, believing, as I do, that the great security to the community for the faithful management of a bank is to be found in the character of the persons by whom it is administered."

A MISSISSIPPI FREE FIGHT.—The Rankin county (Miss.) Journal tells of a free fight at the Courthouse of that county. It says:

" After the trial there was a general fight, which we are told was unequalled, in point of the number engaged, by anything that has ever happened in the county. One fellow caught up a dog and beat another chap with him most soundly! Another had a coffee pot filled with whiskey, with which he beat the head of his adversary. One man was stabbed, and the wounds, though severe, we learn are not likely to prove mortal. It is said at least tifty men were engaged in the row." Statistic control of the property of the prope

FACTS RELATIVE TO THE PRODUCTS OF DEEP RIVER.

A gentleman said to-day, that he did not believe that the black band ore contained oil, etc. I am sure it cannot be amiss to speak of this matter once more, premising, however, that any gentleman who really doubts it shall be convinced by occular demonstration by calling at my laboratory and witnessing the process. I shall go on and state the facts now as though there were no disbelievers. The blackband lies in two belts, separated from

each other by about 25 feet of gray shaly sand. stone. The upper band, which is connected with the main coal seam, is about 3 feet thick, but a part of it is rather poor in iron; the lower is 6 feet; and some of this belt passes into a bony coal, but it is rich in oil. Its specific gravity is about three, that is, it is three times heavier than an equal bulk of water. A square foot of water weighs 623 lbs. A square yard will therefore weigh 5,061 lbs. The lower belt being two yards thick, but assuming only one yard thick, an acre will contain 73,649 tons Three tons will make a ton of pig iron, and hence an acre will make 4,549 tons, and so on. But my object is to calculate the amount of oil which is contained in any given quantity of the ore. There is a thickness of 9 feet of ore which yields a fine oil Its yield is about 12 gallons to the ton, say 10 gallons. It is 3 yards deep, and hence, according to the foregoing calculation, in a square yard of surface there is 15,183 lbs.; and hence in an acre 31,698 tons. An acre will then yield in oil, ben, zole, &c., 316,980 gallons. The crude oil or products is worth at least 40 cts. per gal., or \$126,700 The crude oil in a square mile will be worth \$78. 555,240. Taking a ton of the ore by itself it may be doubted whether it would pay, but when the quantity is considered, and the ease with which it is distilled, it is not to be doubted for a moment that this valuable ore can be made to pay well, especial. ly as a side product in manufacturing iron, But this is only a single branch of the business which would spring into life, when a way is opened to Deep river. But again the coal shales, of which we have 15 to 20 feet thick in a body, yielding some 15 gallons of oil to the ton-or 5 yards thick in mass. Supposing there is only 10 square miles of it, even that product in oil will be enormous-any one can make the calculation. The slate is about 21 times heavier than water, or its specific gravity is about 2.50, water being one. The oil or product when purified is finer than the oil from the Cannel coal of Ohio, and loses less in purifying. But it does not yield so much. Still, can it be supposed that this oil may not be extracted at a profit in these enterprising days? It does not require a red heat. Besides, the ammoniated products furnished by distillation, will be large enough to become an article of traffic as a fertilizer, and after the valuable products have been obtained, the refuse of fine slate, as it contains lime and phosphoric acid from the abondance of coprolites the slates contain, will itself become a fertilizer for the surrounding country.

E. EMMONS. December 8, 1858. State Geologist.

For the Statelard.

ROCKS. The Geological Cabinet of Oxford Female College contains about six hundred specimens of rocks, minerals and fossils, from almost every part of the world. It includes specimens of all the common rocks and of the ores of the common metals, and many of the rarer species, such as Litanium, Holybdenum, Cerium, Uranium, &c., &c. A large portion of the collection consists of crystalized rocks and minerals used as gems and for work. Among these are Berly, Chrysoberyl, Lousmaline, Rubellite, Kyanite Garnet, Opal, Chrysoprose, Chalcedony, Agate, Jasper, &c. In addition to the above, about two hundred duplicate specimens are kept for exchange with Geologists and with those who find "strange and curious rocks." Every hill in North-Carolina contains geological specimens of interest and value. Persons finding such may have them examined free of charge and obtain their full value

by sending them here. The Cabinet is opened to visitors every Saturday, J. H. MILLS.

CONGRESSIONAL.

Washington, Dec. 6, 1858. SENATE.-Notice was given that the Senate would call up the Pacific Railway bill to-morrow. Mr. Mason, of Virginia, asked that the Armistead

schooner case be made a special order for Monday. A short discussion followed. The President's Message was then received and

Mr. Hale, of New Hampshire, the "Senatorial oker," made some sarcastic remarks on the message, likening the President to Job, and also to an antiquated Florence Nightingale who picked up the wounded in the late Pennsylvania election and sent them to the Austrian Hospitals for recovery. Ad-House.-The usual Committees were appointed

to wait on the President for his message.

Mr. Dewart, of Pennsylvania, attempted to introduce a resolution on the increase of duties on iron, coal, wood sugar, lead and other articles requiring protection from foreign competition, which was incffectual. The message was then received and read, after

which the House adjourned. TUESDAY, Dec. 7, 1858. SENATE.-The business transacted to-day was unimportant. Several uninteresting petitions were

Mr. Wilson gave notice of his intention to introduce a bill appropriating 1,000,000 of acres of the public lands for the support of free schools in the District of Columbia. Mr. Gwin being out of order, yesterday, for cal-

ling up the Pacific Railway bill, gave notice that he would do so at an early day.

The Senate then adjourned to Thursday to allow the adjustment of committees.

House,--Numerous bills, acted on by the Senate at the former session, were appropriately referred. The House took up the resolution of the last session, reported from the committee on foreign affairs, requesting the President to take such steps as may be, in his judgment, calculated to effect the speedy abrogation of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty. Mr. Ritchie moved to lay the resolution on the table. The motion was negatived-yeas 90, nays 93. It was then

referred to the committee of the whole. Mr. Billinghurst endeavored to have reconsidered the vote yesterday, by which Mr. Curtis's plan for a Central Pacific Railroad was referred to the select committee on that subject, remarking that the committee having failed in their object, therefore, of necessity, the bill should be referred to some other

Mr. Curtis replied that he did not despair of a compromise, but if one was made the committee must agree on the central route. Mr. Billinghurst's motion was lost. After some other business of no special public importance, the House adjourned to

Walker's Last Effort. MOBILE, Dec. 6.-The Grand Jury was in session

several days last week. The witnesses were Sandford, Collector of Customs, and Smith, Deputy Collector. Also Natzmer, Hesse, and Wm. A. Smith. They were all rigorously examined. Gen. Walker was on the stand about six hours. He was interrogated as to his course of life in Nicaragua, Sonora and California. No bill was found. On Friday Judge Campbell, and Wilson, a secret agent of the Government, left for Washington.

RESULT OF RECENT ELECTIONS,-The Journal of Commerce figures up in a table an absolute and relative gain by the Democratic party in the late elections in the different States, compared with the last Presidential election; even in the free States the Democrats have gained slightly upon the Republican, and upon the aggregate Opposition vote immensely. It makes the total Opposition vote (Republican and American) at the Presidental election, in 1856, 1,547,616; total Opposition vote at the recent elections, 1,251,946; total decrease of Opposition votes, 295,679; increase of Democratic votes, as calculated, 10,996; Democratic gain since 1856, 306,666.

Mass Meeting in New Orleans.

New Orleans, Dec. 6 .- The Douglas mass meeting, to-night, was the largest and most enthusiastic ever witnessed in New Orleans. The Odd Fellows Hall was filled, and thousands were unable to gain admittance. Mr. Soule was president. Lafayette square and the street adjoining the hall were crowded.